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Newsroom: Ahern '07 Leads CED Clinic

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Ahern '07 Leads CED Clinic

Alumna Katie A. Ahern '07, an associate at Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP, is directing the Community Economic Development Clinic this semester.



January 9, 2015: Roger Williams University School of Law is pleased to announce that alumna **Katie A. Ahern '07**, an associate at Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP in Providence, will be directing the school's **Community Economic Development Clinic (CEDC)** this semester.

RWU Law's Community Economic Development Clinic focuses on teaching students to represent clients in business-related transactions, by providing legal services to nonprofit and community-based businesses in Rhode Island. Under full faculty supervision, students work one-on-one with nonprofit leaders and small business owners to determine and help meet their legal needs. The CEDC's director, associate clinical professor of law Gowri Krishna, is on a partial leave this semester.

"I am excited to return to my alma mater as Interim Director of its Community Economic Development Clinic," Ahern said. "I look forward to helping clinic students build their professional expertise while we work together to make a difference in our community."

Andrew Horwitz, RWU Law's Assistant Dean of Experiential Education, said the school is equally excited about Ahern's return.

"I'm thrilled that we were able to bring Katie Ahern back into the Roger Williams family," Horwitz said.

"Katie was a stellar student and, since her graduation has had an extremely successful legal career. Her years of practice at Hinckley, Allen & Snyder – one of Rhode Island's premier law firms – combined with her graduate degree in taxation and her extensive teaching experience at the University of Rhode Island, make her the perfect person to direct our Community Economic Development Clinic."

Named by *Providence Business News* as a 2011 "40 Under Forty" winner, Katie is a go-to expert on taxation – local, state and federal – at the prestigious, 130-plus-law firm. Ahern's legal practice has focused in all areas of federal, state, and local tax matters affecting businesses, individuals, governmental entities, and tax-exempt organizations. Her research and analysis of client tax issues includes those surrounding formation, ongoing operations, and winding up of an organization, application for tax-exempt status of an organization, ongoing tax-exempt organization requirements, tax-exempt bond issuances, and state and local tax requirements.

At RWU Law, she was an honors student and an active participant in the Pro Bono Collaborative. She is an adjunct faculty member at the University of Rhode Island, teaching business-law related classes; and has served on the board and as president of the Rhode Island Women's Bar Association.

Ahern earned her B.S. in accounting at the University of Rhode Island's College of Business Administration, graduating *magna cum laude*. She earned her LL.M. in Taxation at Boston University School of Law. She served as a legal intern and later an associate in corporate and tax law at Tarlow, Breed, Hart & Rodgers, P.C. in Boston; as a legal intern at PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP; and as a legal, investor relations and international tax intern at Hasbro, Inc. She is a member of the Rhode Island and Massachusetts Bars.